



520.39649CX3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: MASUDA, et al.

Serial No.: 10/810,598

Filed: March 29, 2004

Title: PLASMA PROCESSING SYSTEM AND A SAMPLE  
PROCESSING METHOD

Art Unit: 1763

Examiner: R. Kackar

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98**

Mail Stop: DD  
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P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 24, 2007

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a copy of documents cited in connection with corresponding foreign applications cited in an office action dated February 27, 2007. The documents are listed on the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B for the Examiner's consideration.

This information disclosure statement is being submitted after the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance and is accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) and the following certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e).

On information and belief, I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

To the extent that the documents listed on the attached form equivalent to Form(s) PTO/SB/08A and/or PTO/SB/08B are not in the English language, the

requirement of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3) for a concise explanation of the relevance is satisfied by an English language version abstract of the documents.

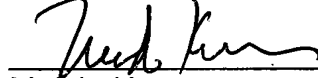
A credit card payment form to cover the fee of \$180.00 under 37 CFR 1.17(p) is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement and the documents listed be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including excess claim fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (520.39649CX3), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

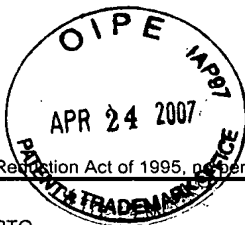


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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Complete if Known</b>			
		Application Number	10/810,598		
		Filing Date	3/29/2004		
		First Named Inventor	MASUDA et al		
		Art Unit	1763		
		Examiner Name	R. Kackar		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	520.39649CX3

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)				
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)					
		JP H11-233492		8/27/1999	Tokyo Electron Ltd., Hitachi, Ltd.		Abs
		JP H04-333230		11/20/1992	Kokusai Electric Co., Ltd.		Abs
		JP 2000-349070		12/15/2000	Tokyo Electron Ltd.		Abs

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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